

ncc

Mission: To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement.

INTERCOM

Social Investment News

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Linder Lectures

The Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) is a well-established private Catholic University serving the East and Central African region. The campus is on the outskirts of Nairobi in Kenya. Currently, CUEA serves more than 1,400 students from over ten countries.

At its inception in 1984, the institute was authorized to offer two-year Licentiate/MA programmes in Theology. In 1992 after lengthy intensive negotiations with the Commission of Higher Education and the establishment of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the Civil Charter was granted and the C U of Eastern Africa was born.

The University is especially conscious of its responsibility to the needs of its nation. Currently, there is a need for special skills and techniques for effective management of development projects. To this end CUEA now offers a post graduate diploma in planning and management of development projects. However, the need for community development is so great that an undergraduate certificate is now being offered to equip students with analytical tools, principles, and basic concepts of project identification, appraisal, and implementation.

CUEA faculty visited NCC last year looking for practical help with their latest program. Their new curriculum will include some of what NCC had to offer them.

Subsequently, Msgr. Linder was invited by CUEA to lecture on community development and the importance of working with grass roots community organizations.

The Catholic University of Eastern Africa would certainly be open to international initiatives with the Catholic Colleges in America Faculty and student exchange would be a boon for CUEA and a fantastic opportunity for US Colleges to experience the effective utilization of scarce resources.

The CUEA address follows for those community-owned college administrators who would be interested in investigating the possibility of a mutually agreeable alliance.

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NCC Social Services Department is intent upon enhancing the quality of life of those who reside in the community. Social workers provide a range of services and programs addressed to the health, economic, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of the tenants.

Also, consistent with its concept of self-determination, NCC is concerned that its residents be informed of the political and social issues that affect their lives. Tenants are prepared to make their voices heard throughout all aspects of the political system.

Social Services chronicles offer some heart-warming tales of residents.

Bea Quittley – Manor Senior’s “Good Neighbor.” Involved since Manor’s opening day in 1983, Bea has been floor captain, building hostess, member of the NCC Senior Advisory Board, member of the Roseville Senior Club, and usher at St. Rose of Lima Church. For years, all these activities were concurrent.

The nature of Bea Quittley is to be helpful. She is “there” for her senior contemporaries when they are sick or upset or unable to get groceries or need words of encouragement.

Bea’s two daughters, four sons, thirteen grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren have inherited these same wonderful qualities. Her Quittley family and her NCC family are blessed by her presence.

Elizabeth Frankling has lived in NCC Douglas Homes, a senior building converted from a celebrated hotel, for 21 years. Elizabeth is open and positive, seeing only the good in everyone. Like Bea, Elizabeth is totally involved – Senior Advisory Council, Resident Association treasurer, Adult Bible Class, Adult Medical Day care, and faithful member of the Mount Olivet Baptist Church from which she has several certificates of appreciation.

Richard Kendall resided in NCC Douglas Harrison Apartments for 32 years. He was a native of North Carolina and a Smith University basketball scholar. His mother’s death during his college days affected him deeply. He quit school, found work, and shortly thereafter joined the US Navy.

After his years of service, Richard settled in Newark and immediately became involved—American Legion, Senior Group in Newark, Disabled Veterans, and Church. At the same time he was busy at home helping his neighbors with chores they found difficult. He carried groceries, delivered donuts and NCC Clarion, ran errands to nearby stores/pharmacy. He had a kind word and helping hand for everyone.

Mr. Kendall died last month after suffering a stroke. His neighbors mourn for him as well as for themselves on the loss of such a dear friend.

Quittley, Frankling, Kendall— three senior citizens from different pasts, living in different areas of Newark, doing ordinary things extraordinarily well!

Social Investment

Investing in New Community is simply putting your money where your heart is—

- Early Learning Center for children of new housing project. Many of these tots arrive at 6:30 a.m. and leave at 6:30 p.m.
- Kenya Farm* – People's Empowerment Project. NCC is sponsoring a simple 5 acre farm for food to eat and sell and to teach proper farming methods.
- Lady Liberty Charter School which will be housed in a recently vacated Catholic elementary school
- Programs for senior citizens who are alone, lonely, and often ill.

*Noted by Msgr. Linder during his trip to Kenya last month —

- 60% of Nairobi's population live in makeshift shacks (squatter cities) with no heat, no electricity, no sanitation, no water, no streets, no paths, no government services (including education).
- Hundreds of orphaned children live on the "street" fending for themselves.
- On Sunday, Church is packed to the rafters including all entrances for several hundred yards out. The singing is heavenly. The depth of faith and involvement in liturgy is palpable.

Return on your investment is 8%.



Msgr. Linder visiting the school house built solely by the Kisii Community members.

Mark Wilson

Mark Wilson began his NCC career in 1994 as a field housing manager. In 1996 he became assistant director of the Environmental Service Department. Since 1998 Mark has been its director working in a professional, cooperative, team-oriented manner.

The highest possible recommendations came with Mark from his former employers. He was regarded as a responsible, reliable, and efficient property manager when he worked for Holsten Management of N.J. Inc. ; Ascot Management, N.Y.; and Asset Realty, N.J. where he worked as violation manager.

On numerous occasions in NCC, Mark has maintained his composure and solved problems with on-target resourceful decisions. His NCC evaluations attest to his "above standard" or "outstanding" performance.

Mark was born in Jersey City, brought up in Bayonne, and now lives in Jersey City with his wife Lori and their two children, Mark II, age 7 and Destiny, age 4. Lori is a social worker whose education included St. Aloysius Academy and St. Peter's College, both in Jersey City.

St. Peter's granted Mark a BS in Business with a minor in Urban Studies. During his college career (Dean's List) Mark continued to work with the Bayonne Housing Authority as well as with UPS. He also found time to woo his wife. He "just happened" to be in several classes that Lori was taking.

Since Mark Wilson spends so much time at NCC, he has little leisure for time-consuming hobbies. However, he is a sports fan and enjoys football and basketball. Television entertainment for Mark includes Westerns and war movies. Mostly, he enjoys playing with his children.

Apparently, much like his grandfather, Mark cannot abide "shiftless people – folks who don't give their all". A very hard worker by nature, Mark gives his "all" to NCC.

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